

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The drawing has been modified to address the Examiner's objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.84. Specifically, reference numerals have been added for each of the objects and English language descriptors have been moved from the margin into the body of the drawing. Also, the signal lines for inputs (M_measured) to "F brake" are redrawn as outputs from their respective motors (25, 35, 45, 55) instead of from the controllers (elements 22, 32, 42, 52), in order to conform to the detailed description at paragraph [016]. No new matter has been added.

Attachment: One Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 have been examined. With this amendment, Applicants add claims 12 and 13. Claims 1-13 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Formalities

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and for confirming receipt of the priority document.

Applicants also thank the Examiner for initialing the references listed on form PTO/SB/08 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 30, 2004.

II. Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings for not having English language descriptors for each of the objects and for not having reference numerals corresponding to a description in the specification for each of the objects.

Applicants submit that the modifications to the drawing obviate the objection.

III. Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Knestel (US 6,457,352) ["Knestel"]. For at least the following reasons, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Claims 1 recites a method for operating a test bench that comprises "comparing the setpoint speed to an actual speed of the roller...wherein the comparison between the setpoint speed and the actual speed is independent of speeds of other rollers on the test bench."

Knestel discloses that, in order to compensate for differences in speed between the front rollers and the rear rollers, controllers 53 and 54 respectively subtract and add the angular difference in the two shafts (col. 9, line 67 to col. 10, line 14, Fig. 10). Although Knestel discloses that speed sensors may be substituted for the sine/cosine transmitters, the actual difference in speed between the front rollers and the rear rollers is still required by both controllers 53 and 54. Accordingly, the speeds of both sets of rollers are used in the comparison done by each controller (see col. 6, lines 28-34, Fig. 10).

Accordingly, Knestel does not disclose or suggest “comparing the setpoint speed to an actual speed of the roller...wherein the comparison between the setpoint speed and the actual speed is independent of speeds of other rollers on the test bench” as set forth in claim 1.

Because claim 10 recites a feature similar to that given above with respect to claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 10 is patentable for at least reasons similar to those given above with respect to claim 1.

Applicants submit that claims 2-8 and 11 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

IV. New Claims

With this amendment, Applicants add claims 12 and 13. Because claim 12 recite features similar to those given above with respect to claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 12 is patentable for at least reasons similar to those given above with respect to claim 1. Applicants submit that claim 13 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency, as well as the features set forth therein.

V. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for finding allowable subject matter in claim 9 and for indicating that this claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have rewritten claim 9 in independent form and submit that claim 9 is allowable.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

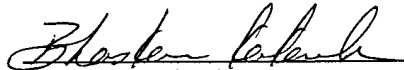
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